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United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

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Meeting convened pursuant to
article 41, paragraph 3, of the
International Tropical Timber Agreement, 1994
Geneva, 13 September 1996

MEETING CONVENED PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 41, PARAGRAPH 3, OF THE INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER AGREEMENT, 1994

Note by the UNCTAD secretariat

The attached letter, dated 4 June 1996, received from the Executive Director of the International Tropical Timber Organization, in which he requests the Secretary-General of UNCTAD to convene this meeting in accordance with paragraph 3 of article 41 of the International Tropical Timber Agreement, 1994 as well as decision 2(XX) adopted by the International Tropical Timber Council, are circulated to all participants for information. */

*/ Attachments in English only.

GE.96-51372

INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER ORGANIZATION

ITTO

4 June 1996
L.96-0297

Dear Mr. Ricupero,

International Tropical Timber Agreement, 1994
Entry into Force

It is indeed my pleasure to write this letter to express, once again, our sincere gratitude for your continued assistance in connection with issues related to the entry into force of the International Tropical Timber Agreement, 1994 (ITTA, 1994). During the International Tropical Timber Council Session held in Yokohama from 8 to 16 November 1995, you were kind enough to release Mr. Erik Chrispeels, the Senior Legal Officer of UNCTAD, to attend the Session to provide clarifications concerning the entry into force of the ITTA, 1994.

As you know, the ITTA, 1994, has now met the requirements for entry into force in accordance with Article 41, paragraph 2, though not by the stipulated date. At the recently concluded Twentieth Session of the International Tropical Timber Council held in Manila from 15 to 23 May 1996, the Council adopted Decision 2(XX) in connection with the meeting of all those governments which have taken the necessary measures provided for in paragraph 3 of Article 41. I herewith enclose a copy of the relevant Decision for your information. In view of the curent situation and developments, such a meeting of relevant governments convened by the Secretary-General of UNCTAD would be appropriate and timely.

As the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests (IPF) of the U.N. Commission on Sustainable Development is holding its Third Session in Geneva from 9 to 20 September 1996, I am writing to request that a United Nations meeting concerning the entry into force of the ITTA, 1994, be convened in Geneva during the earlier part of the IPF Session in order to save both costs and time as many delegations will be involved in both meetings.

I trust the above meeting could be convened as suggested and for your kind co-operation and assistance, I thank you in anticipation.

Yours sincerely,

B.C.Y. Freezailah
Executive Director

Rubens Ricupero Esq.
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ITTO

INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER COUNCIL

TWENTIETH SESSION
15-23 May 1996
Manila, Philippines

DECISION 2(XX)

ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE INTERNATIONAL TROPICAL TIMBER AGREEMENT, 1994

The International Tropical Timber Council,

Recalling its Decision 1(S-II) of 21 January 1994 by which it extended the ITTA, 1983, until the entry into force of the ITTA, 1994;

Noting that many members have taken the necessary measures to bring the ITTA, 1994, into force;

Recognizing, however, that some members require more time to complete their national constitutional procedures in relation to the entry into force of the ITTA, 1994;

Recognizing the need to continue further consultations with respect to a proposal that the Agreement be brought into force on 1 January 1997; coinciding with the beginning of the new fiscal year;

Decides to:

1. Urge all members who have not yet done so, to expedite action to comply with the procedures and requirements for the entry into force of the ITTA, 1994, as soon as possible;

2. Authorizes the Executive Director to request the Secretary General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to convene a conference, in accordance with paragraph 3 of Article 41 of the ITTA, 1994, sometime during the Third Session of the Inter-governmental Panel on Forests of the U.N. Commission for Sustainable Development, which is scheduled in Geneva from 9 to 20 September 1996;

3. Further authorize that the partial costs of attendance of some developing member countries may be met from earmarked voluntary contributions to the Special Account.

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